

Remarks

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the foregoing amendment, claims 1-22, 26-28 are pending in the application, with claims 1, 6, 12, 19 and 26 being the independent claims. These changes are believed to introduce no new matter, and their entry is respectfully requested.

Based on the above amendment and the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Telephonic Examiner Interview

Applicants thank the Examiner for the telephonic interviews with Applicants' representative, Michelle K. Holoubek, Reg. No. 54,179, on April 26, 2006, and April 27, 2006. In these interviews, agreement was reached as to amendments to claims 1, 6, and 19 that would make these claims allowable.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-11 and 19-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0068990 to Sorrells *et al.* ("Sorrells"). Applicants respectfully traverse, but have amended claims 1 and 6 in accordance with the telephonic Examiner Interview held April 26, 2006. Claim 19 has been amended in accordance with the telephonic Examiner Interview held April 27, 2006. Applicants thus

Claims 2-5 depend directly from claim 1. Claims 7-11 depend directly from claim 6. Claims 20-22 depend directly or indirectly from claim 19. Applicants thus submit that claims 2-5, 7-11, and 20-22 are in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as discussed with respect to claims 1, 6, and 19, and further in view of their own respective features. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2-5, 7-11, and 20-22 are respectfully requested.

Applicants note that page 2 of the Office Action additionally listed claims 23-27 as being rejected. However, the Office Action Summary indicates that only claims 1-11 and 19-22 were rejected. Claims 23-25 were previously cancelled, and claims 26-28 have been allowed. Therefore, it is Applicants' understanding that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) does not apply to claims 26 and 27.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating the allowability of claims 12-18 and 26-28.

Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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